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the cave is a beautiful illustration of cave formation. When a freshet or rain storm is in progress in the far-off mountains this stream is sure to be affected. Residents say that the water comes out with such force sometimes that one can hear it for miles. This then to me is the secret of the whole thing. The mountain has been burst asunder by the continued force of water. The *Adiantum Capillus-Veneris* has certainly an affinity for this geological formation. The carbonate of lime and the water is its very life. There it grows, in its own selected home, as it never grew before; and it is to be hoped no hand of vandalism will ever destroy it. This scene is now a perfect gem of Nature's handiwork, in every sense.

I impressed Major Wallace, a gentleman who has some influence in this quarter, with the importance of having this spot protected. Next year there will be a great rush of visitors to this place, and, without some restriction, they will soon uproot every frond. The fern is found plentiful about two miles further up the river; and those desiring specimens can get them there. I may state I found this fern only in places surrounded by such conditions as have already been mentioned.

Louisville, Ky., Aug. 18.

JOHN WILLIAMSON.

§ 73. **Asplenium ebenoides**, R. R. Scott, in **New York State**.—I send, herewith, a frond of *Asplenium ebenoides*, R. R. Scott, which I found yesterday (Aug. 6th), on limestone rocks about four miles S. E. of Poughkeepsie. There were but three plants, and I secured but three fronds. I will give the locality a more thorough looking over, later on, and hope to find some more. *Asplenium ebeneum*, Ait., and *Camptosorus* were, as usually the case, growing with it—all three within a space of about a foot square. In these plants the veins anastomose quite frequently—about 24 times in the frond that I have. Prof. Eaton describes the venation in his specimens as everywhere free. I have never seen this fern mentioned as having been found in New York before; but, whether it has, or has not been, it certainly is very scarce, and worthy of being recorded in the BULLETIN.

Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

CLARENCE LOWN.

§ 74. **Fendler's Trinidad Ferns**.—The sets of the second, or supplementary distribution, of this fine collection are now at Prof. Eaton's Herbarium. Several sets (including the first distribution) are still unsold.

§ 75. **Dr. Garber's Porto Rico Plants** are also for sale by Prof. Eaton. The sets run from 96 to 17 species, and are mostly interesting plants. That most delicate of all ferns, *Trichomanes trichodeum*, is in all the sets.

§ 76. **Notes from Syracuse**.—*Plantago media*, L., has been found in the streets. It resembles *P. major*, but has soft downy leaves, and shorter petioles which are not grooved; the spikes of flowers are shorter, but the stamens are longer and brilliantly colored. Muhlenberg found it in Pennsylvania (Cat. 1813), but Dr. Gray says it is

not known there in our days.—Mr. L. M. Underwood has found *Zygadenus glaucus*, Nutt., growing in considerable abundance in "Tamarack Swamp," two miles east of Syracuse. He would be glad to furnish specimens of this rare plant in exchange for *Orchidaceae*.—The Syracuse Club has gathered *Epipactis* again this year.

§ 77. **Notes from California.**—As in my occasional botanizing, I sometimes am able to make an observation new and interesting to myself, and, so far as I can learn, not yet recorded, I accept your general invitation to "communicate," and send you the following items:

Double Flowers: While botanizing at Whitewater, Wis., in the spring of 1876, I found quite frequent specimens of *Thalictrum anemonoides* and *Hepatica acutiloba* with double the normal number of sepals; and in some cases, I thought I could detect indications of two circles of floral parts, as if two flowers had a common torus. A few weeks ago, while botanizing here, on the mountains, I found a specimen of *Lilium rubescens* on which was one well-defined twin flower, with ten parts to the perianth, twelve stamens, and *two pistils*, proving beyond doubt the twin character of the blossoms.

Rootstock of Erythronium grandiflorum.—While collecting the above plant on the foot-hills here, I discovered that it has a very delicately attached rootstock.

Lilium Humboldtii.—This plant, which is very abundant along mountain streams here, frequently has one of its upper whorls of leaves lengthened into a very perfect spiral.

Pontederia cordata.—This plant I find growing under cultivation here; the owner says he collected it in this county, but I have not seen it wild. I observe that as the flowers wither, the stems bend downward until the fruiting spike is immersed in the water, where the fruit matures. I observed the same fact concerning it in Wisconsin.

Ricinus communis.—The castor-oil plant, which is an annual herb in the Northern U. S., grows to be a perennial tree twenty feet high in Southern California.

Poison Oak.—The poison oak of California, *Rhus diversiloba* (?) grows very abundantly everywhere on the foot-hills and mountain sides. Though quite as poisonous in its effects upon human beings as *Rhus toxicodendron*, the horses and cattle here eat it with relish and apparently without harm.

GEO. R. KLEEGER.

Weaverville, Cal., July 27.

§ 78. Teratological Notes.

1.—In the Horace Mann herbarium at Cornell University is a specimen of *Botrychium lunarioides* which, besides possessing the usual fruiting stalks, has two of the sterile segments replaced by fertile divisions.

Dichotomous fronds of *Aspidium marginale* have several times been found by me at Ithaca.

In 1879 I collected a "twin frond" of *Polypodium incanum* in Alabama. The stipe branched near the middle.

Supernumerary carpels were frequently observed on *Acer Pseudo-Platanus* at Ithaca, the number of wings sometimes reaching five.